From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Investing for Success
This year’s funding of $21,500 will be used for the following:
- The employment of Mrs Muller (an experienced teacher) who is working with our Year 3 and 5 students in order to prepare them for this year’s NAPLAN tests. Please note that she began working with them in 2016 in order to ensure that they are well and truly prepared. After NAPLAN, she’ll work with student who are working below our region’s benchmarks in literacy and numeracy.
- The employment of Mrs Pinchin (Speech Language Pathologist) to ensure that all of our prep and junior students receive additional support with their oral language development. She will also provide extra support to those students who are on a speech language program. Moreover, she will provide professional development to staff.
- The purchase of resources to support literacy and numeracy.
- The employment of additional teacher aide time in order to support students who require additional support in the classroom.

Independent Public School (IPS) Funding
We have now received our $100,000 grant for becoming an IPS school. Some of the funding is being used for the following:
- The employment of an experience teacher who will provide health and wellbeing support for students and families.
- The purchase of additional Chappy time i.e. two hours on Wednesdays.
- Additional administration time due to the IPS budget and for school promotions.
- Capital Works/school improvements—watering, fencing, pathways, shed, gardens etc.
- Pre-prep program in semester two i.e. additional teacher aide time and new resources for their classroom.

Our School’s Focus for Learning
Our school data is informing my staff and I that Grammar and Punctuation is an area that we haven’t moved in for the past three years, we have performed at the National Mean Score in all areas of the assessments and have made significant growth in all areas except for Grammar & Punctuation.

Quote of the Week
“ To err is human—and sometimes it’s the best thing.”

Have a wonderful weekend.

Denny Taylor - Principal

Photos of the Week
It was a big week for birthdays!

Calendar of Events

Badge Presentation: Week 4—Friday morning assembly.

Prep Photo: A photo was taken today, for the Gatton Star. A photo is being sent to the QLD Times.

P&C AGM: Next Friday, from 12 noon.

This Week in History:
1903: Morris Mitchom and his wife Rose introduce the first teddy bear in America.

P&C AGM
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Friday 24th February from 12 noon is the date for our AGM and monthly meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.

Health & Wellbeing
Mrs. Pamela Sippel is working in our school as an experienced teacher, who is available to provide health and wellbeing support to our students and parents.

Please note that her Diary Dates are as follows for term one: Friday: 24 February, 10 March and 21 March.

Please feel free to book a meeting with her on one of these Fridays, by phone, on 5411 5111, or let us know at the office.

Please note that Mrs. Sippel previously worked in our school as a Behaviour Support Teacher and secondly as a Guidance Officer for Mental Health & Wellbeing. She is employed using our Independent Public School funding.

Due to the fact that we have been allocated a Guidance Officer, from our Regional Office in Toowoomba i.e. Ms. Best, Mrs Sippel is not employed to provide Guidance Officer support.

Ms. Best is employed to carry out cognitive assessments on students (with parent permission) and counselling (upon request by a parent). She is also required to provide support for teachers in the support of students with their learning.

Birthdays
Birthday Wishes to Laila, who turned 5 on Tuesday. Thanks to all parents for the birthday cakes and cupcakes.

Chappy’s Corner

Happiness is a state of mind. Instead of adjusting attitudes and feelings, we often attempt to find happiness through less than permanent alternatives. As soon as one purchase or activity fails to sustain our level of contentment, the search continues for the next ‘sure thing’. Even the rich and famous, where money is plentiful and possessions abound are plagued with unhappiness. So what is the secret to true and lasting happiness? Being a School Chaplain, the answer to this question would be a great relationship with God (which I believe) but more than that, making a conscious decision to be happy is critical. Be content with what you have, who you are and your situation in life. Once your attitude is in check, then make sure you have purpose in your life, set achievable goals, surround yourself with positive friends and influences.

Don’t rely on ‘things’ to make you happy, but rather enjoy relationships with family, friends and colleagues, as well as participating in wholesome activities including exercise.

I hate to remind you, but life IS short, and we only get one chance to get it right!

Speaking from experience, life is so much better when you make the effort to be happy than it is when you focus on all the bad stuff.

Quotes
Start each day with an attitude of gratitude.

Happy people are beautiful.
Finally... happy mind happy life

Students of the Week
Levi (P-2) - for making great progress in reading
Kaiden (3-6) - for working so well as a Superstar student

This Week’s Awards
Junior Class: Laila, Joyce, Holly, Cooper, Justice, Hayley, Layla, Isaiah, Mavrick, Creedence, Garry, Sarah, Oliver, Brydan, Peter, Mia, Alisha

Senior Class: Mackenzie, Jackson, Letia, Alan, Kiana, Candis, Cooper, Hannah, Dion, Dwayne, Holden, Kane, Opol, Phoenix, Seth, Kandice, Taylor, William

Reminders
Orders to be in on Thursday morning
Library Returns: Please encourage your child to return library books on Wednesdays, so they can borrow more books.
Students Absent: require a phone call to the school on 5411 5160 or 5411 5111

Teachers: Phoenix, Alisha, Holly, Cooper, Justice

Prep Program in semester two i.e. additional teacher aide time and new resources for their classroom.

Tuckshop: orders to be in on Thursday morning

Happy mind happy life